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SEOUL FOR HEATHER GRELL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/08/2023  
TAGS: [ETTC](#) [KOMC](#) [KS](#)  
SUBJECT: BLUE LANTERN LEVEL 3: PRE-LICENSE END-USE CHECK  
ON LICENSE 050121644

REF: 07 AFOSIREGIO 5221612

Classified By: David C. Trimble, for reasons 1.4(a), (b), and (d)

[1](#)1. (U) This is an Action Request. See paragraphs 2 - 4.

[1](#)2. (U) The Department's Office of Defense Trade Controls Compliance (PM/DTCC) requests Post's assistance in conducting a pre-license check on license 050121644 for the export of electronic detonators to Korea. Post is requested to complete this Blue Lantern check within 30 days. Lack of response to a Blue Lantern check will affect pending and future licenses involving parties to this license.

[1](#)3. (S/NF) Reason for Request: Suspicion of South Korean national Richard Hwang of Vic-K International (applicant) arose in 2007, when intelligence reporting (REFTEL) indicated that Mr. Hwang sought to procure a uniquely designed infrared camera on behalf of the Korean Agency for Defense Development. Mr. Hwang's request was identical to that of another company known by the United States intelligence community to be a front-company for the People's Republic of China (PRC). This gave rise to questions as to the whether Mr. Hwang and/or Vic K-International was working on behalf of the PRC. This request is for post to confirm that the defense articles listed below are, in fact, being used to fulfill a contract between foreign consignee, Hanwha International, and Government of the Republic of Korea and will not be diverted to a third party.

[1](#)4. (U) Action Request: Post is requested to establish the bona fides of these transactions by making appropriate inquiries to authorities at the Korean Defense Acquisition Program Administration and Hanwha International. Post should acquire a signed contract from both Hanwha International and the Defense Acquisition Program Administration (DAPA) to compare, and verify that the defense articles listed below are to be used pursuant to the terms of said contract. Post should also verify the quantities needed to satisfy the agreement between Hanwha International and DAPA, and report any discrepancy from the quantity listed below.

In its reply, Post may also comment on any other information pertinent to these transactions such as security of facilities, end-use, and concerns about the entities involved.

[1](#)5. (U) Details of license applications:

DTC Case: 050121644

QUANTITY/COMMODITY:

200 M69 Electric Detonator & Assembly

License Value: USD \$23,900

SELLER:

Vic K-International Corp  
9600 Long Point Suite 222  
Houston, TX 77055

FOREIGN CONSIGNEE:

Hanwha International Corp  
23 Floor Hanwha Building  
#1 Jangkyodong, Chungku  
Seoul, Korea

Purchase Order lists Don Kim in the United States as the POC  
Tel: 609.655.2500 x 775  
Email: don0404@hanwha-usa.com

FOREIGN END-USER:

Defense Acquisition Program Administration  
2-15 Yongsandong-2ka-ku  
Seoul, Korea

PURPOSE:

Foreign consignee, Hanwha International, procured M69 electronic detonators from another US company for integration into the Korean Army's 105mm artillery fuse. The detonators previously acquired are assessed as having inconsistent quality so the foreign consignee is attempting to procure new detonators under this license application for the purposes of comparing the quality and effectiveness of the two manufacturers' products.

¶16. (U) Submitted in support of the license application were the following documents (PM/DTCC will fax documentation to Posts upon request):

DSP-83 signed by Chang-Seong Ko (Hanwha International) and Hyeon-Soo Lee (Defense Acquisition Program Administration)

Purchase Order No. 1080501086 dated 05/13/2008 (lists Don Kim as the POC in the United States tel: 609.655.2500 x 775)

¶17. (U) Please slug reply for PM/DTCC - BLUE LANTERN COORDINATOR and include the words "Blue Lantern" and the case number in the subject line. POC is Kyle M. Ballard, Phone: 202-663-1929; Email: BallardKM@state.gov; SIPRNET: BallardKM@state.sgov.gov. The Blue Lantern Guidebook (ref) is available as a PDF file in the Bunche Library's E-Book Collection on the DOS Intranet: [http://virtuallibrary.state.gov/BlueLanternGuidebook2006%2520 final .pdf](http://virtuallibrary.state.gov/BlueLanternGuidebook2006%2520%20final.pdf)

¶18. (U) Department is grateful for Post's assistance in this matter.  
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